GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2362
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
CESS ON EXPLOITATION OF GROUND WATER
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bottled water industry which uses the ground water as its sole raw material pays only a negligible amount as cess on water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to hike cess on such units utilising ground water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b) As per information received from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, water cess is levied and collected by the State Pollution Control Boards for prevention and control of water pollution. Differential rates of cess are collected depending upon the use of water, the rate being higher where pollution load is expected to be more, which results in higher cost of pollution abatement and varies from 2 paise/kiloliter for domestic purposes to 30 paise/kiloliter for industrial purposes.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Water Resources has no proposal for imposition of higher rates of cess on bottled water industry using the ground water as raw material.